

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-25 (Canceled)

Claim 26 (Original) A dry pipe valve sealing assembly comprising:

a seat body having a first seating surface and a second seating surface cincturing the first seating surface, the first seating surface defining a first seat body axis and the second seating surface defining a second body axis offset to the first seat body axis, the first and second seating surfaces being generally disposed on a common plane; and

a clapper being positioned to cooperate with the seat body.

Claim 27 (Original) The dry pipe valve sealing assembly of claim 26, wherein the first and second seating surfaces comprise metallic seating surfaces, and wherein the clapper supports a unitary polymeric sealing member that forms first and second sealing surfaces, the first sealing surface defining a first axis, and the second sealing surface surrounding the first sealing surface to define a second axis offset to the first axis, the first and second sealing surface being respectively contiguous to the metallic first and second seating surfaces to prevent fluid flow through the seat body.

Claim 28 (Original) A dry pipe valve sealing assembly comprising:

a seat body having first and second seating surfaces disposed on the seat body; and

a clapper positioned to cooperate with the seat body;

a unitary sealing member disposed on the clapper, the unitary sealing member including a first sealing surface engaging the first seating surface and defining a first axis, and a second sealing surface cincturing the first sealing surface to define a second axis offset to the first axis, the first and second sealing surfaces engaging the respective first and second seating surfaces to prevent fluid flow through the seat body.

Claim 29 (Original) The dry pipe valve sealing assembly of claim 28, wherein the first and second seating surfaces being generally disposed on a common plane, the first and second

seating surfaces being formed from a metallic material and the unitary sealing member being formed from a polymeric material.

Claim 30 (Original) A dry pipe valve sealing assembly comprising:

- a seat body having a first metallic seating surface and a second metallic seating surface cincturing the first metallic seating surface;

- a clapper positioned to cooperate with the seat body; and

- a sealing member having first and second polymeric sealing surfaces, the first polymeric sealing surface defining a first axis and engaging the first metallic seating surface, the second polymeric sealing surface cincturing the first polymeric sealing surface to define a second axis offset from the first axis, the second polymeric sealing surface engaging the second metallic seating surface in one position of the clapper to prevent fluid flow through the seat body.

Claim 31 (Original) The dry pipe valve sealing assembly of claim 30, wherein the first and second metallic seating surfaces being generally disposed on a common plane, the first and second polymeric sealing surfaces being formed by a unitary member.

Claim 32 (Original) The dry pipe valve sealing assembly any one of claims 27, 29, or 31, wherein at least one of the first and second sealing surface comprises cantilevered lips extending oblique to one of the first and second axes.

Claim 33 (Original) The dry pipe valve sealing assembly of claim 32, wherein the clapper further comprises a retainer plate sandwiching the unitary sealing member between the clapper and the retainer plate.

Claim 34 (Original) The dry pipe valve sealing assembly of claim 32, wherein the clapper defines a first distance between the pivot axis and the first axis, and a second distance between the pivot axis and the second axis such that the second distance is less than about 1.8 times the first distance.

Claims 35-41 (Canceled)

Claim 42 (Original) A fire protection system comprising:

- a supply pipe having a first fluid pressurized to a first pressure;
- a network of pipes having a plurality of sprinklers, the network of pipes having a second fluid being pressurized to a second pressure at approximately 5.5 times the first pressure; and
- a dry pipe valve including:
 - a body defining a passage extending along a longitudinal axis between an inlet coupled to the supply pipe and an outlet coupled to the network of pipes, the inlet having an inlet diameter of approximately WD inches;
 - a seat disposed in the body, the seat having a seating surface with a diameter AD approximately less than two times WD inches; and
 - a clapper pivotable about an axis orthogonal to the longitudinal axis between a first position occluding the passage when the ratio of the second pressure to the first pressure is at least 5.5 and a second position permitting fluid flow through the passage when the ratio is less than 5.5.

Claim 43 (Original) The system of claim 42, wherein WD comprises a magnitude of about six inches.

Claim 44 (Original) The system of claim 42, wherein the seating surface comprises first and second seating surfaces disposed on the body, the first seating surface disposed about the longitudinal axis, the second seating surface cincturing the first seating surface to define a seat axis offset to the longitudinal axis, the clapper having a first sealing surface disposed about the longitudinal axis and a second sealing surface cincturing the sealing surface to define a clapper axis offset to the longitudinal axis, the clapper cooperating with the seating surfaces in one position of the clapper to prevent fluid flow through the passage.

Claim 45 (Original) The system of claim 44, wherein the clapper comprises a first distance between the pivot axis and the longitudinal axis, one of the clapper and seat axes being located at a second distance to the pivot axis of less than about 1.8 times the first distance.

Claims 46-50 (Canceled)